



ARTSWISE

A QUARTERLY BULLETIN

Summer 2006

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ARTS COMMISSION AWARDS \$4,518,000 IN GRANTS TO 228 COUNTY ARTS GROUPS

The Los Angeles County Arts Commission has announced a record \$4,518,000 in grants to 228 nonprofit arts organizations for fiscal year 2006-07 through its Organizational Grant Program. In June, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved a doubling of the appropriation for grants to nonprofit arts organizations. The 2006-07 grant awards are the first to reflect that increase.

With additional grant funds, the Arts Commission was able to provide a greater degree of assistance to local arts organizations in several ways simultaneously:

- . Grants were made to 29 more arts organizations than in 2005-06 (a 15% increase)
- . The average grant size increased, and
- . For the first time, two-year commitments were made to organizations with budgets exceeding \$100,000. Approximately half of the grantees have received two-year awards for 2006-07. Two-year awards will enhance organizational stability and reduce the administrative burden for arts organizations. The remainder of the grantees will receive two-year awards in the next grant cycle, with all grantees receiving multi-year awards by 2007-08.

A complete list of grantees for 2006-07 is online on the Arts Commission's web site, http://lacountyarts.org/anncmt_granteesbycategory0607.pdf

In addition, 55 organizations will receive \$174,500 in 2006-07, for the second year of two-year grants awarded in 2005-06. These grantees bring the total number of arts organizations receiving County funds this fiscal year to 283.

The doubling of the County's budget for arts grants runs counter to the current trend of funding for the arts from governmental agencies. The appropriation makes the Arts Commission the largest public funder of the arts in L.A. County with an annual grants budget for the region greater than that of the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs or the National Endowment for the Arts.

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APPLICATIONS FOR 47th ANNUAL L.A. COUNTY HOLIDAY CELEBRATION DUE AUGUST 9

The Los Angeles County Arts Commission seeks County-based youth and adult community and professional choirs, music ensembles, folk and traditional artists, and dance companies to perform in the 47th Annual Los

Angeles County Holiday Celebration. Interested artists are required to submit an electronic eGRANT application, which is accessible via the Arts Commission website at www.lacountyarts.org/holiday.html. All performing groups are paid. Both the application guidelines and the eGRANT application are available online now, and the deadline to apply is Wednesday, August 9, 2006.

The Los Angeles County Holiday Celebration is a free public event that honors the spirit of many cultures and holiday traditions through music, song and dance and takes place every December 24th from 3 to 9 pm at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion at the Music Center in downtown Los Angeles. The stage production is also broadcast live on KCET, and an annual one-hour highlight broadcast is carried nationally on PBS.

The Arts Commission encourages all Los Angeles County-based performing groups and representing diverse communities, traditions, and performing disciplines to apply for the Los Angeles County Holiday Celebration. Proposed programming should be suitably themed for a multi-cultural holiday production. For more information, read the guidelines at http://www.lacountyarts.org/holiday_celebration_guidelines06.pdf.

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FORD AMPHITHEATRE SEEKS PROPOSALS FOR 2007 SUMMER SEASON, APPLICATIONS DUE SEPTEMBER 13

The Ford Amphitheatre in Hollywood seeks proposals for performing arts and film events to be considered for its 2007 Summer Season. The season typically covers a broad range of performance categories including, but not limited to, cabaret, classical music, dance, film, jazz, multimedia, theatre and world and folk music. Projects chosen for the Ford's Summer Partnership Program receive significant presentation support and assistance.

Proposals are being accepted electronically through the County Arts Commission's e-grant system. Before opening a proposal application, prospective applicants should first read the program's guidelines, which include instructions as well as a description of other opportunities that exist for participating in the Ford's summer season. Both the guidelines and application are available at: <http://www.FordAmphitheatre.org/en/ford/apply.asp>. Guidelines are also available from the Ford at (323) 856-5793.

The deadline for applications is Wednesday, September 13, 2006.

Workshops about the Summer Partnership Program and how to submit a competitive proposal will be held on Wednesday, July 26 at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, August 22 at 7:00 pm at the Ford, 2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East, 90068, in the Hollywood Hills.

The Ford is a renovated historic 1,250-seat open-air amphitheatre located in a 35-acre County regional park and operated by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission. Over 100 performing arts and film events are presented at the venue each summer.

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L.A. COUNTY'S ONLINE MUSICIANS DIRECTORY EXPANDS

Looking to hire a quality musical group for a benefit, wedding, bar mitzvah, anniversary or other special occasion? Simply log on to <http://www.LaMusicians.org>. This online directory of Los Angeles County-based musicians was recently expanded, with the addition of 43 groups. The 107 groups now on the roster were selected by a panel of experienced professionals in the music and/or presenting fields. The roster is searchable by key words, music style and name of artist and features audio clips.

The roster embraces a very wide range of genres from American Dixieland to Eastern European klezmer, flamenco to Afro-Caribbean, Chinese classical to Country/Western. The directory reflects the numerous cultural traditions of the County's population as well as the region's dynamic musical scene, which fosters collaborations, crossovers and the creation of hybrid styles. Photos, background, and contact information are also provided.

The roster was established for presenters of the Arts Commission's Free Concerts in Public Sites to select ensembles for their events, but it is accessible to anyone. Log onto the Musicians Roster to hear sound clips of any of the groups performing at upcoming free concerts sponsored by County:

<http://www.lacountyarts.org/free.html>

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FORD THEATRES COMPLEX AVAILABLE FOR SPECIAL EVENTS, PARTIES AND GROUP OUTINGS

The Ford summer season is in full swing, with more than 100 presentations planned by season's end, October 15. But the Ford complex is not only a place where great performances happen - its spaces can be rented for special events such as benefits, corporate events, weddings, graduations and awards presentations. Further, groups of 8 or more friends, families, colleagues or clients can turn a night at the theatre into an extraordinary event, enjoying discounts on seats, dining and other perks.

Complete information is available from the Ford's Director of Sales, Genaide Greaney, (323 769-2147, parties@lacountyarts.org) or by visiting <http://www.FordAmphitheatre.org/en/info/groupsales.asp>

For a virtual visit to the Ford, take a look at the photo tour on the theatre's web site at <http://www.FordAmphitheatre.org/en/info/tour.asp> and the summer performance schedule at <http://www.FordAmphitheatre.org/en/performance/July.asp>

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SUMMER INTERNS GAIN EXPERIENCE IN ARTS ADMINISTRATION

Through Los Angeles County's arts internship program 135 college undergraduates are working in 93 arts organizations this summer. The interns have the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the work involved in nonprofit arts administration and the role of the arts in a community, and develop business skills that can be put to use in their future careers. Internship host organizations - which include performing, literary, media and municipal arts groups - help mold and shape potential new workers in the arts field who may go on to arts leadership positions on staffs, boards or as volunteers.

Interns are paid \$350 per week for ten weeks and take part in educational and arts networking activities, made possible through funding from the Getty Foundation, that give them a broad perspective on the Los Angeles arts scene and careers in the arts. This summer's daylong ArtBus tour took them on an odyssey through downtown L.A. including a performance piece on the site of St. Vibiana's Church by the Cornerstone Theatre Company, a rehearsal by Diavolo Dance Theater, a slide show by L.A. history maven Charles Phoenix, a performance featuring Bob Baker's marionettes and lunch at Clifton's Cafeteria. In August, the interns attend an Arts Congress where they can choose from menus of Arts Tune Ups (marketing, public art, cultural planning and working in music) and ArtMaking (storytelling, movement, drumming, mask making and poetry) sessions.

Interns are paid through \$530,000 in grants awarded to participating organizations by the Arts Commission. In conjunction with the Getty Foundation, which runs a sister program in the visual arts, the Arts Commission supports the largest arts internship program in the country. For more information on the internship program, log on to <http://www.lacountyarts.org/internship.html>

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SCHOOL DISTRICTS DEMONSTRATE COMMITMENT TO ARTS EDUCATION

Arts for All: Los Angeles County Regional Blueprint for Arts Education, the 10-year strategic plan to restore dance, music, theatre, and the visual arts to Los Angeles County school districts, continues to make progress. In the past seven months, four more school districts - **Alhambra, Burbank, Castaic** and **Hacienda La Puente** - have adopted arts education policies and budgeted plans. The total number of districts with policies and plans is now 12. Three other districts - ABC, Little Lake City and Palos Verdes Peninsula - are on track to adopt arts education plans this year.

The Arts for All Pooled Fund provides multi-year technical assistance to the districts to help them develop and implement their plans. **The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation** has become the newest member of the Pooled Fund with a contribution of \$100,000. Of this amount, \$50,000 will support key priorities of Hacienda La Puente's plan over the next three years including hiring an Arts Coordinator to guide implementation, developing arts curriculum and arts education training for district teachers. Hacienda La Puente USD is providing \$111,282 over the three-year period to match the grant.

The **Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles**, a charter member of the Pooled Fund, has launched a collaboration with the Arts Commission to fund more than 150 arts residency programs serving approximately 4,000 K-12th grade students in 14 Los Angeles County public school districts. The Arts in Schools! Giving Circle launched by JCF's Family Foundation Center seeks to raise \$100,000 from individual donors by the end of 2006 for arts education. The Giving Circle will supply matching funds to school districts that have adopted arts education policies and plans. These matching funds will enable eligible districts to hire arts educators who are listed on the County's online arts education directory www.LAartsed.org. This program is also being supported through a \$85,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to the Arts Commission and matching funds from the County's Productivity Investment Fund. The NEA grant was the largest allocation made in the NEA's Arts in Learning category in the country.

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ArtsWise is the quarterly e-newsletter of the Los Angeles County Arts Commission. The Commission fosters excellence, diversity, vitality, understanding and accessibility of the arts in Los Angeles County. The Commission provides leadership in cultural services for the County, including information and resources for the community, artists, educators, arts organizations and municipalities. The Commission offices are located at 374 Hall of Administration, 500 W. Temple St., Los Angeles, CA 90012. Complete Arts Commission information is available at www.lacountyarts.org. The Commission does not trade, sell or rent its e-mail list to anyone.

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